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1. A method for encoding data for transmission in a communication system comprising the steps of:

partitioning a set of orthogonal codes into a first subset with a first number of members;

partitioning a first plurality of data bits associated with a first transmission into first packets;

encoding the first plurality of data bits by assigning each first packet to a corresponding member of the first subset;

partitioning a set of orthogonal codes into a second subset with a second number of members, the second number of members being different than the first number of members;

partitioning a second plurality of data bits associated with a second transmission into second packets; and,

encoding the second plurality of data bits by assigning each second packet to a corresponding member of the second subset.

2. A method as defined in Claim 1, wherein the communication system comprises a CDMA communication system.

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3. A method as defined in Claim 1, wherein the first plurality of data bits represents one or more of the group consisting of an audio signal, a video signal, and a data signal.

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4. A method as defined in Claim 1, wherein the second plurality of data bits represents one or more of the group consisting of an audio signal, a video signal, and a data signal.

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5. A method as defined in Claim 1, wherein the first plurality of data bits requires a lower power level than the second plurality of data bits and the first number of members is higher than the second number of members.

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6. A method as defined in Claim 1, wherein the first plurality of data bits requires a higher data rate than the second plurality of data bits and the first number of members is higher than the second number of members.

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7. A method as defined in Claim 1, wherein the first plurality of data bits requires a lower error rate than the second plurality of data bits and the first number of members is higher than the second number of members.

8. A method for encoding data for transmission in a communication system comprising the steps of:

partitioning a set of orthogonal codes into a subset with at least three members;

partitioning a plurality of data bits into packets; and,

encoding the plurality of data bits by assigning each packet to a corresponding member of the subset.

9. A method for increasing the terminal capacity of a CDMA communication system, comprising the steps of:

providing a set of orthogonal codes;

assigning at least three of the orthogonal codes in the set to a transmission; and,

decreasing power associated with the transmission thereby increasing the number of transmissions capable of utilizing the CDMA communication system at a given time.

10. A method for increasing the amount of data transmitted by a CDMA communication system, comprising the steps of:

providing a set of orthogonal codes;

assigning at least three of the orthogonal codes in the set to a transmission; and,

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5 11. A method for decreasing the errors in a CDMA
communication system, comprising the steps of:
 providing a set of orthogonal codes;
 assigning at least three of the orthogonal codes in the set to
a transmission; and,
10 lengthening an error code associated with the transmission
thereby decreasing the number of errors in the CDMA communication
system.

 12. An apparatus for encoding a signal associated with a
15 communication in a wireless communication system comprising:
 a memory retaining a set of orthogonal codes;
 a signal partitioner for partitioning the signal to be
transmitted into packets having a number of members;
 a code partitioner for assigning a subset of the set of
20 orthogonal codes to the communication, the subset including at least
three codes; and
 an encoder for mapping the packets of the signal to the
subset of the orthogonal codes.

13. An apparatus as defined in Claim 12, further comprising a transmitter for transmitting the encoded signal.

14. An apparatus as defined in Claim 12, wherein the signal represents one or more of the group consisting of an audio signal, a video signal, and a data signal.

15. An apparatus as defined in Claim 12, wherein the communication system comprises a CDMA communication system.

16. An apparatus as defined in Claim 12, wherein the signal partitioner comprises software performed by a microprocessor.

17. An apparatus as defined in Claim 12, wherein the signal partitioner comprises an integrated circuit.

18. An apparatus as defined in Claim 12, wherein the code partitioner comprises software performed by a microprocessor.

19. An apparatus as defined in Claim 12, wherein the code partitioner comprises an integrated circuit.

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20. An apparatus as defined in Claim 12, wherein the encoder comprises software performed by a microprocessor.

21. An apparatus as defined in Claim 12, wherein the encoder comprises an integrated circuit.

22. (New) A method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising:
accessing a lookup table to obtain said orthogonal codes.

23. (New) A method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising:
providing said set of orthogonal codes from a base station to a terminal; and
wherein said two partitioning steps and said encoding step are performed at said terminal.

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24. (New) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein:
said step of partitioning said set of orthogonal codes is performed at a base station;
said base station provides said subset to a terminal; and
said data bit partitioning step and said encoding step are performed at said terminal.

25. (New) A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein:
said providing step includes accessing a lookup table to obtain said orthogonal codes.

26. (New) A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein:

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said providing step provides said set of orthogonal codes from a base station to a terminal; and

said assigning and power decreasing steps are performed at said terminal.

27. (New) A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein:

said providing and assigning steps are performed at a base station;

said base station provides said assigned orthogonal codes to a terminal; and

said power decreasing step is performed at said terminal.

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28. (New) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein:

said providing step includes accessing a lookup table to obtain said orthogonal codes.

29. (New) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein:

said providing step provides said set of orthogonal codes from a base station to a terminal; and

said assigning and increasing steps are performed at said terminal.

30. (New) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein:

said providing and assigning steps are performed at a base station;

said base station provides said assigned orthogonal codes to a terminal; and

said increasing step is performed at said terminal.

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31. (New) A method as claimed in claim 11, wherein:

said providing step includes accessing a lookup table to obtain said orthogonal codes.

32. (New) A method as claimed in claim 11, wherein:

said providing step provides said set of orthogonal codes from a base station to a terminal; and

said assigning and lengthening steps are performed at said terminal.

33. (New) A method as claimed in claim 11, wherein:

said providing and assigning steps are performed at a base station;

said base station provides said assigned orthogonal codes to a terminal; and

said lengthening step is performed at said terminal.

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34. (New) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein:

said plurality of members includes at least three members.

35. (New) A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein:

said plurality includes at least three of the orthogonal codes.

36. (New) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein:

said plurality includes at least three of the orthogonal codes.